

REMARKS

Claims 2, 5-8, 10-12, 14, 17, and 18 are amended. Claims 1 and 13 are canceled in this paper; claims 19-29 and 36-39 were previously canceled in response to a Requirement for Restriction. New claims 41-51 are added. Claims 2-12, 14-18, 30-35, and 40-51 remain in the application.

Claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 11-13, 17 and 18 are rejected for anticipation by Tanzer et al, US Patent No. 5,593,399. This rejection is moot in view of the cancellation of claims 1 and 13 and the amendments made to the remaining claims.

Objection is made to claims 2-4, 6, 9, 10, and 14-16 for depending on a rejected base claim, with the observation that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this objection for the following reasons.

Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form including all limitations of claim 1, the base claim from which it depended. Claim 2 is therefore allowable as are claims 3-12, which depend from claim 2.

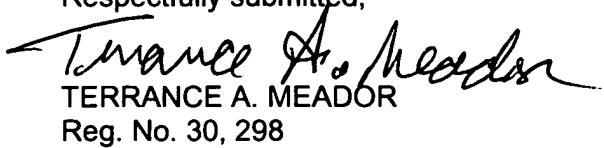
Claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form including all limitations of claim 13, the base claim from which it depended. Claim 14 is therefore allowable as are claims 15-18, which depend from claim 14.

New claim 41 corresponds to claim 6 rewritten in independent form including all limitations of claim 1, the base claim from which claim 6 depended. Claim 41 is therefore allowable as are claims 42-51, which depend from claim 41.

Claims 30-35 and 40 are allowed.

All claims having been placed in allowable form, or having been allowed, the application is now in condition for allowance, early notice of which is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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